



Motor Gasoline Watch

March 29, 2000

Energy Information Administration
Office of Oil & Gas

SUPPLY

! Despite increased demand, stocks rose last week due to higher production and import levels. Total motor gasoline stocks increased 1.8 million barrels to end the week at 201.1 million barrels. Stocks of reformulated gasoline were up 0.1 million barrels to 38.1 million barrels while stocks of other finished gasoline rose 0.3 million barrels to 116.1 million barrels. Stocks of motor gasoline blending components ended the week at 46.2 million barrels, 1.5 million barrels above the level at the end of the prior week.

! Total motor gasoline stocks at the primary storage level were 17.7 million barrels below the level for the same week last year. Imports of total gasoline averaged 724 thousand barrels per day of which 143 thousand barrels per day were reformulated and 326 thousand barrels per day were blending components.

Gasoline Production by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Thousand Barrels per Day)

District	Total Finished Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/24/00	03/26/99	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/24/00	03/26/99
East Coast (PADD I)	1,014	1,168	1,132	1,137	1,079	627	649	655	652	636
Midwest (PADD II)	1,812	1,841	1,821	1,803	1,722	298	298	286	274	291
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	3,435	3,486	3,409	3,479	3,458	645	534	615	654	611
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	283	287	262	264	238	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	1,293	1,438	1,427	1,463	1,180	853	973	936	1,041	889
U.S. Total	7,839	8,220	8,051	8,146	7,676	2,423	2,454	2,492	2,621	2,427

Gasoline Stocks by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Million Barrels)

District	Total Gasoline Week Ending					Reformulated Gasoline Week Ending				
	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/24/00	03/24/99	03/03/00	03/10/00	03/17/00	03/24/00	03/24/99
East Coast (PADD I)	53.6	52.7	54.9	56.7	63.7	18.6	16.4	17.9	17.0	20.9
Midwest (PADD II)	56.7	55.8	53.5	53.1	56.3	1.6	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.8
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	55.9	56.5	57.6	56.5	65.3	8.2	8.7	9.3	9.5	10.3
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	8.0	7.7	7.5	7.3	7.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	26.8	26.1	25.7	27.5	26.1	9.4	9.8	9.6	10.5	10.2
U.S. Total	201.0	198.8	199.3	201.1	218.8	37.7	36.3	38.0	38.1	42.2

For information about this report, please contact the National Energy Information Center: 202-586-8800. E-mail: infoctr@eia.doe.gov.

PRICES

! Stock builds reported for the week ending March 17, expiration of the April crude oil futures contract, and the prospect that OPEC would raise production at the March 27 OPEC Ministerial meeting helped lower petroleum spot prices until concern developed about the size of the increase in supplies. A lack of consensus on the 27th prompted further discussions among OPEC members the following day. Conventional gasoline in the New York Harbor was up almost six cents over the previous week to 86.30 cents per gallon. Gasoline spot prices on the West Coast were down, but a disappointing outcome from the OPEC meeting and the continued attraction of imports to the East Coast could reverse the trend.

! The expectation for increased OPEC supplies that gave rise to a drop in spot prices as noted in last week's *Watch* contributed to a 2.1 cent-decline in this week's average U.S. retail gasoline price. As of March 27, 2000 the average was 150.8 cents per gallon, 42.6 cents higher than last year. California slipped from its record breaking high of 179.3 cents per gallon a week ago to 178.8 cents per gallon presently.

Regular Gasoline Spot Prices by City (Cents per Gallon)

City	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/27/00	03/29/99	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/27/00	03/29/99
New York	95.38	93.63	80.50	86.30	48.74	91.59	94.00	83.50	94.20	49.99
Chicago	91.38	86.00	79.00	84.08	51.24	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Houston	94.05	89.75	77.00	83.03	49.52	94.75	98.50	87.00	97.95	52.64
Los Angeles	120.00	131.00	95.00	93.00	91.00	123.00	134.00	98.00	96.00	97.50

Source: Reuters Information Services.

Regular Gasoline Retail Prices by Petroleum Administration for Defense District (Cents per Gallon, Including Taxes)

District	Conventional Gasoline					Reformulated Gasoline				
	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/27/00	03/29/99	03/06/00	03/13/00	03/20/00	03/27/00	03/29/99
East Coast (PADD I)	146.0	149.9	150.0	147.7	98.9	148.4	153.4	154.4	154.2	101.8
Midwest (PADD II)	151.7	151.1	148.4	144.2	106.7	155.2	152.0	149.1	146.2	112.1
Gulf Coast (PADD III)	146.3	148.0	147.8	146.3	99.9	140.5	144.1	149.1	148.7	97.7
Rocky Mountain (PADD IV)	145.2	151.2	155.4	156.2	111.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
West Coast (PADD V)	152.4	158.6	165.0	166.3	124.3	162.6	173.1	178.6	178.1	144.9
U.S. Average	148.9	150.8	150.2	147.7	104.8	152.9	157.4	159.2	158.3	115.6

Source: Energy Information Administration, Form EIA-878, Motor Gasoline Price Survey.

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